

States and constitutes a large market for U.S. exports. I am confident that despite current economic uncertainties, the Philippines will weather the troubles plaguing Asia and emerge even stronger than before.

The Congress looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Philippines in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the peoples of the United States and the Philippines.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to introduce this legislation and I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to support this Resolution commemorating the distinctive ties between the people of these two great nations.

I insert the entire text of this resolution in the RECORD.

H. RES. 404

Whereas 1998 marks 100 years of special ties between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines and is also the centennial celebration of Philippine independence from Spain which initiated relations with the United States;

Whereas the people of the Philippines have on many occasions demonstrated their strong commitment to democratic principles and practices, the free exchange of views on matters of public concern, and the development of a strong civil society;

Whereas the Philippines has embraced economic reform and free market principles and, despite current challenging circumstances, its economy has registered significant economic growth in recent years benefitting the lives of the people of the Philippines;

Whereas the large Philippine-American community has immeasurably enriched the fabric of American society and culture;

Whereas Filipino soldiers fought shoulder to shoulder with American troops on the battlefields of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam;

Whereas the Philippines is an increasingly important trading partner of the United States as well as the recipient of significant direct American investment;

Whereas the United States relies on the Philippines as a partner and treaty ally in fostering regional stability, enhancing prosperity, and promoting peace and democracy; and

Whereas the 100th anniversary of relations between the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines offers an opportunity for the United States and the Philippines to renew their commitment to international cooperation on issues of mutual interest and concern: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the Philippines on the commemoration of its independence from Spain;

(2) looks forward to a broadening and deepening of friendship and cooperation with the Philippines in the years ahead for the mutual benefit of the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines;

(3) supports the efforts of the Philippines to further strengthen democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and the expansion of free market economics both at home and abroad; and

(4) recognizes the close relationship between the nations and the people of the United States and the people of the Philippines and pledges its support to work closely with the Philippines in addressing new challenges as we begin our second century of friendship and cooperation.

IN HONOR OF FRANKLIN PERRY GOULD'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JAY W. JOHNSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Franklin Perry Gould of Crivitz, Wisconsin on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Mr. Gould was born on April 21, 1908 in Marinette, Wisconsin. His father, B.P. Gould, operated a logging camp in the white pine forests of northern Wisconsin, a thriving business. Mr. Gould attended Crivitz High School, where he played basketball and graduated as Valedictorian in 1928.

Despite the hardship of the Great Depression, Mr. Gould was able to attend Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin, and there he received his undergraduate degree in 1932. After college, he returned to Crivitz and started a business as a land surveyor.

In his long career, Mr. Gould served as the charter president of the Wisconsin Land Surveyors, which was organized in 1956. He also served as the president of the Wisconsin Towns Association, Chairman of the Town of Stephenson, and as a member of the Marinette County Board for 12 years.

During World War II, Mr. Gould moved his family to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, where he helped the war effort by building ships.

After retiring from land surveying, Mr. Gould worked with his son, Donald Franklin, as a home builder. Even in retirement, Mr. Gould still visits home building sites whenever possible.

Everyone who has the pleasure to know Mr. Gould agrees he is a kind and noble gentleman who has no equal when it comes to honesty, integrity and perseverance. Today we pay tribute to him for all he has given to his family, his friends and his community for these 90 years.

THE RETIREMENT OF THOMAS G. POWERS

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 1998

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, all of us who are privileged to serve in the House know how much we rely on the hard work of our staffs, both in our own offices and in the various committees on which we serve. Occasionally, we are fortunate enough to work with a staff member who is so knowledgeable and effective in his or her area that it is difficult to imagine anyone else holding down that responsibility. I rise today to report to the House the retirement of such a staff member, the long time senior counsel to the Committee on Small Business, Tom Powers.

Tom has the distinction of being the longest tenured staff member in the history of the Small Business Committee—27 continuous years, in all. In fact, Tom is the only staffer to have served throughout the full standing Committee's existence, it having attained this status with the beginning of the 94th Congress in 1975. He also served throughout the period

during which the Small Business Committee was a permanent select committee, from 1971 to 1975.

Tom earned law degrees from both Drake University in his native Des Moines, Iowa and New York University in New York City. He served as legal counsel to the Iowa General Assembly and Polk County, Iowa before coming to Washington in 1971.

He served as subcommittee counsel to our colleague, Hon. JOHN DINGELL, and then counsel to the full committee under Chairmen Joe L. Evins and Tom Steed. In 1977, Tom became the Committee's General Counsel, serving in that capacity under Chairmen Neal Smith and Parren Mitchell. Tom continued to serve as my senior counsel from 1987 until recently when I resigned my ranking minority position on the Small Business Committee to assume that position on the Banking and Financial Services Committee.

Tom's encyclopedic knowledge of small business issues and of Small Business Administration programs and legislation is legendary. Our friend, Representative Neal Smith, who served so honorably in this House for 36 years and was the father of many of those programs, remarked in his recent book, *Mr. Smith Went to Washington*, that Tom was the expert in the country on SBA programs. In keeping with the Small Business Committee's long tradition of operating in the most bipartisan and cooperative spirit possible, Tom made his expertise available to all Members on both sides of the aisle and to their staffs; and the respect which Members on opposite sides of an issue shared for Tom's knowledge and judgment was often decisive in our fashioning a workable compromise. Similarly, Tom used his technical skills and talent for negotiation in countless instances to resolve legislative and other disagreements between the House and Senate or between the Congress and the Executive Branch.

Tom has been deeply involved in virtually all small business legislation in the last quarter century. Of course, SBA's authorizing legislation has been a primary focus of his responsibilities over the years. But Tom also successfully shepherded the enabling legislation for all three White House Conference on Small Business (1980, 1986, and 1995), the original Regulatory Flexibility Act, the Prompt Payment Act, the Equal Access to Justice Act and federal procurement reform legislation, in addition to legislation establishing the nationwide Small Business Development Center network, the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program, new financing mechanisms for certified development companies (CDCs) and small business investment companies (SBICs), and new secondary market programs to enhance small business access to capital from sources traditionally unavailable to smaller concerns.

In addition to his legislative responsibilities, Tom also served as the Committee's liaison with the Committee on Appropriations, with which the Small Business Committee enjoyed an exceptionally good relationship. As though all these duties were not enough, Tom served as the Committee's parliamentarian and, in this role, earned the respect of all Committee members for his knowledge of House Rules and procedures and for his impartiality.

Over the years, Tom has received countless commendations for his accomplishments and services on behalf of the small business community. During Small Business Week in May,